

SHARP MARY BIRCH HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN & NEWBORNS
SHARP MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
SHARP MESA VISTA HOSPITAL
SHARP VISTA PACIFICA HOSPITAL
SHARP MEMORIAL OUTPATIENT PAVILION
SHARP HOME CARE

June 18, 2013

Merry Holliday-Hanson, Ph. D., Manager
Administrative Data Program
Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development
400 R Street, Room 250
Sacramento, CA 95811

Dear Ms. Holliday-Hanson,

This letter is in response to our receipt of the 2012 Hospital Inpatient Mortality Indicators. Sharp Memorial Hospital has comments for four areas: congestive heart failure, pneumonia, stroke and craniotomy. We appreciate the opportunity to provide feedback regarding our scores.

In response to our 2012 congestive heart failure mortality data (4.7%) 26/672:

- Sharp Memorial Hospital has the largest advanced heart failure program in San Diego County, offering patients heart pumps and transplants since 1985. Because of this expertise, Sharp Memorial serves as a large referral center for local and outlying hospitals that do not have further medical-surgical treatment options for their patients. Our mission in the community is to continue to improve outcomes in all heart failure patients and offer advanced therapies for the best chance of survival.
- In addition, the median age of those patients in the mortality data was 86 years old and 69% (18/26) patients had do-not-resuscitate orders prior to their death.

In response to our 2012 pneumonia mortality data:

- 7.7% (31/480) rate reported for CY 2012. All cases were carefully reviewed and the following findings were noted:
 - The median age of those patient in the mortality data was 80 years old and 45% (14/31) patients had do-not-resuscitate orders on the first or second day of admission indicating that these patients were nearing end-of-life prior to admission.
 - In addition, 48% (15/31) had significant co-morbid conditions such as ruptured aortic aneurysm, liver failure, cancer (8), ESRF (4), and post-renal transplant.

In our craniotomy data a 15.8% mortality rate was reported. All cases were reviewed and the following findings were noted:

- Six of the eleven cases were admitted in critical condition through the Emergency Room with complex co-morbidities including the use of anticoagulants which increases the risk of intracranial bleeding.
- Of the eleven cases reported, two were patients with carcinoma.

In our CY 2012 total stroke data a 12.5% (45/424) rate was reported. All cases were carefully reviewed and the following findings were noted.

- Twelve of the forty-five cases reported were admitted in critical condition through the Emergency Department who were comatose, posturing and or signs of herniation.
- Nineteen of the forty-five cases were 85 years of age or greater with twelve of these patients being 90 years or older.

Thank you for allowing us to provide feedback on our programs,

Tim Smith

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Chief Executive Officer
Sharp Memorial Hospital